



**R. Booth Goodwin II, United States Attorney
Southern District of West Virginia**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 11, 2010
<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/wvs/>

CONTACT: Melvin Smith
800-659-8726*(304)345-2200
Tracy.Chapman@usdoj.gov

**CLAY COUNTY FATHER AND SON SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR MULTI-STATE
THEFT CONSPIRACY**

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – Two Clay County, West Virginia men were sentenced today for their roles in a conspiracy to steal construction equipment, vehicles and other property worth more than \$618,000. Tommy Edward Young, Sr., 43, was sentenced to 132 months in prison, and his son, Tommy Edward Young, Jr. 23, received a sentence of 58 months in prison by United States District Judge Thomas E. Johnston.

Following a four-day trial in March 2010, a federal jury sitting in Charleston, West Virginia found the Youngs guilty of conspiring with others to steal, possess and transport stolen motor vehicles and goods, consisting primarily of construction and farm equipment, from June 2003 to October 2008. The trial revealed that the vehicles and equipment were stolen from New York, Ohio, and Pennsylvania, transported across state lines to West Virginia, and stored on the Young's property in Clay County. It was further revealed that some stolen equipment was also stored on the property of the Young's co-conspirators, Jay Summerfield and Dennis Marcum, in Jackson and Kanawha Counties in West Virginia.

The long-term investigation, jointly conducted by local, state and federal authorities, included the execution of search warrants in Clay, Jackson and Kanawha Counties. At trial, Marcum and Summerfield testified that they were paid to store stolen equipment for the Youngs. The jury found that Tommy Young, Sr. planned and participated in the thefts, and transported the stolen property to West Virginia where he later sold the vehicles and equipment to other individuals.

Jay Summerfield pleaded guilty before trial and was previously sentenced to 48 months in prison for his role in the conspiracy. Dennis Marcum, who also pleaded guilty before trial, was previously sentenced to 30 months in prison.

The investigation was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Clay County Sheriff's Department, Jackson County Sheriff's Department, Kanawha County Sheriff's Department, West Virginia State Police, and the National Insurance Crime Bureau. The prosecution was handled by Susan M. Robinson, Chief of the White Collar Crimes Section, and Assistant United States Attorney Thomas C. Ryan.

###